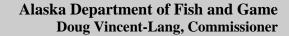
Division of Commercial Fisheries Sam Rabung, Director

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Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: August 19, 2020

CONTACT: Jim Menard or Kevin Clark Kotzebue Area Manager & Asst. Area Manager (907) 442-3420 (800) 560-2271

Kotzebue Commercial Fishery Announcement #13

KOTZEBUE COMMERCIAL SALMON FISHING TO OPEN ON THURSDAY

Commercial salmon fishing will be open for 8 hours on Thursday, August 20, from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. in the Kotzebue District.

The commercial catch on Tuesday was 7,589 chum salmon by 44 permit holders.

The catch so far this season is just over 132,000 chum salmon by 65 permit holders. The daily catch has declined from last week's peak catches as was expected.

The Kobuk River test fish chum salmon catch index at Kiana is starting to fall off after the best catches of the season last week and ranks as the lowest in the 28-year project history. The cumulative catch index is just over 500 points but is projected to reach the minimum 600 index points with the current fishing schedule.

If you have any questions concerning the fishery you can call the Kotzebue office at 442-3420, or the Commercial Fisheries office in Nome at 1-800-560-2271.

COVID-19

Under Alaska's Health Mandates 10, 17, and 18, commercial fishing is an Essential Business and is part of Alaska's Essential Services and Critical Infrastructure. Commercial fishermen should ensure that all travel and other activities in support of commercial fishing operations follow protocols in Alaska COVID-19 Health Mandates. COVID-19 Health Mandates may be found here: https://gov.alaska.gov/home/covid19-healthmandates/